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STATINTL

SENATE TO HEAR ALL DODD DATA

Committee Shifts Stand On Evidence Taken From Files

Washington, June 20 (AP)—The Senate Ethics Committee, starting hearings on misconduct charges against Sen. Thomas J. Dodd, of Connecticut, first ruled out copies of documents taken from his files and later disclosed they are being used in the probe.

At the end of a day-long closed hearing, chairman Stennis (D., Miss.), said his opening statement about not using as evidence copies of over 4,000 documents removed from the Connecticut Democrat's office required "certain clarification."

In his original statement he said the bipartisan committee felt the copies of the documents were "sufficiently stigmatized so as to preclude their use as evidence here."

Differences Sought

Stennis said later that since the committee regarded the admissibility of these copies as at least questionable, it considered it had a duty to secure "all documents and facts obtainable" independently.

"This is what we are doing," he said but added "if the original documents obtained are at variance, or do not include all docu-

ments taken from Senator Dodd's office with respect to the matters before the committee, the committee will inquire into such variance."

Stennis said that after screening the copies it obtained, the committee requested Dodd to furnish it with the originals of all the documents it felt were material to its investigation.

One Witness Heard

Dodd has done so, Stennis said, adding that so far no variance has been found in the originals and the copies of the documents that were removed from Dodd's files.

The only witness heard by the committee today was James P. Boyd Jr., 37-year-old former administrative assistant to Dodd. Boyd freely acknowledged to newsmen he had participated in removing and copying the documents over a long period both before and after his dismissal from Dodd's employment.

He said he had turned copies over to newsmen Jack Anderson, an associate of syndicated columnist Drew Pearson. Boyd said the copies were made outside Dodd's office and the originals returned to the filed.

The copied documents figured in a series of columns in which Pearson and Anderson charged Dodd with misconduct. The columns resulted in a request by Dodd for the committee investigation and also in a \$2,000,000 libel suit by the Senator against the columnists.

Disturbed By Ruling

Boyd, who left Dodd's staff in May, 1965, said he is disturbed by the committee's ruling against use of the copied documents as evidence.

"This will be of the greatest advantage to Senator Dodd," Boyd said as he left the hearing room.

He said he would be "very surprised" if Dodd had turned over all the documents involved in the case to the committee set up to police Senatorial ethics.

He would not discuss his testi-

mony before the committee.

Stennis said the committee's initial hearings would deal with Dodd's relationship with Julius Klein, owner of a Chicago public relations firm and a registered agent for West German business interests.

Stennis said "a critical element" in this relationship was a trip Dodd made to West Germany in April, 1964.

"The committee will accordingly be especially interested in any evidence which seeks to establish or refute the allegation that Senator Dodd employed the official sanction of such a trip as a subterfuge for a scheme to improve the reputation which Julius Klein had in Germany," said Stennis.

In his libel suit against Pearson and Anderson, Dodd said he made the trip for the Senate Internal Security subcommittee to investigate murder and kidnapping as instruments of Soviet policy.

The columnists had written that Dodd made the trip to help Klein retain his West German clients after Klein had figured in a Senate Foreign Relations Committee investigation of the activities of foreign agents.

Dodd To Attend

Dodd will be permitted to attend all his committee's hearings, to cross-examine witnesses and to offer evidence on his own behalf, Stennis said.

Arriving at the hearing with two lawyers, Dodd reminded reporters he had asked for the hearings and said "I'm glad they are under way."

Stennis, in his opening statement, said the committee considered allegations in addition to Dodd's relationship with Klein but said some were considered "too frivolous or trivial to warrant hearings and will be disposed of otherwise."

"The closed hearings," he said, "will be an effort to determine the essential facts that ought to be heard to cover the material points concerning the allegations. These facts will then be heard at open hearings."